

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 127

**Introduced by Assembly Members Feuer, Atkins, Dickinson,
Monning, and Wieckowski**

March 13, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 127—Relative to the Sea Scouts Centennial.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 127, as introduced, Feuer. Sea Scouts Centennial.

This measure would congratulate and salute the Sea Scouts on their Centennial for providing leadership and positive opportunities for America's youth and would encourage the Boy Scouts of America, including the Sea Scouts, to accept for membership and leadership positions all qualified youth and adults, without discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation or religious belief.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, In 1912, Arthur A. Carey founded Sea Scouts, a
- 2 division of the Boy Scouts of America that focuses on traditional
- 3 nautical activities, with the Boy Scout Training Ship Pioneer in
- 4 Boston; and
- 5 WHEREAS, For 100 years, Sea Scouts has provided young
- 6 people with positive opportunities through hands-on maritime
- 7 experiences; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Sea Scouts has championed responsible boating
- 9 to guard against water accidents; and

1 WHEREAS, Sea Scouts has partnered with civic organizations
2 promoting safe boating, environmental conservation, and
3 community service; and

4 WHEREAS, Sea Scouts has inspired California's youth to join
5 maritime industries and competitive sailing; and

6 WHEREAS, Thousands of Sea Scouts have served in the United
7 States Armed Forces and defended their country, as exemplified
8 by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz's statement that 40 percent
9 of the men under his command in World War II had been Boy
10 Scouts and they had won 60 percent of the decorations for valor,
11 a fact that constituted "full justification of ... faith in the Sea
12 Scouts"; and

13 WHEREAS, Sea Scouts is currently a specialized segment of
14 the Boy Scout's Venturing program for young adult men and
15 women, with the purpose of addressing members' boating skills
16 and promoting knowledge of our maritime heritage; and

17 WHEREAS, Sea Scouts in California hosts the largest Sea Scout
18 competitive and safety training events in the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, Sea Scout units, called "ships," focus on sailing
20 and cruising either sailboats or power vessels, whereby Sea Scouts
21 learn to maintain and operate the vessel, with a focus on learning
22 the safe and proper methods of handling boats, as well as learning
23 the meaning of buoys and lights, how to take advantage of wind
24 and tide, and how to drop anchor and approach a dock; and

25 WHEREAS, The policy of the Boy Scouts of America, and
26 therefore a policy of the Sea Scouts, which bars from membership
27 or leadership positions otherwise qualified individuals solely on
28 the basis of their sexual orientation or religious belief, causes harm
29 to the innumerable youth and adults who, regardless of their hard
30 work and merits, are denied the opportunity to participate in any
31 way in the Boy Scouts of America and Sea Scouts; and

32 WHEREAS, The discriminatory policy of the Boy Scouts of
33 America and the Sea Scouts is contrary to the policy of the State
34 of California; and

35 WHEREAS, Other similar organizations, such as the Girl Scouts,
36 Camp Fire USA, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, serve
37 as role models for the Boy Scouts of America and Sea Scouts
38 because they do not discriminate against youth and adults; now,
39 therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
2 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature congratulates and salutes
3 the Sea Scouts on their Centennial for providing leadership and
4 positive opportunities for America's youth; and be it further
5 *Resolved,* That the Legislature encourages the Boy Scouts of
6 America, and therefore the Sea Scouts, to accept for membership
7 and leadership positions all qualified youth and adults, without
8 discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation or religious belief;
9 and be it further
10 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
11 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.